

By Joint Resolution, the Congress has designated April 9, 1983, as National P.O.W.-M.I.A. Recognition Day. On this day, I firmly believe that we should recognize the special debt all Americans owe to our fellow citizens who gave up their freedom in the service of our country and to the families who have undergone a great travail.

We shall continue to remember our missing servicemen. Our Nation must never forget them. Resolution of their fate is, and will remain, a matter of the highest national priority. On April 9, 1983, a P.O.W.-M.I.A. Flag will fly over the White House, the Departments of State and Defense, and the Veterans Administration as a symbol of our unswerving commitment to resolving the fate of all servicemen still missing.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RONALD REAGAN, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate Saturday, April 9, 1983, as National P.O.W.-M.I.A. Recognition Day, a day dedicated to all former American prisoners of war, to those still missing, and to their families. I call on all Americans to join in honoring those who have been held captive in war and their loved ones.

I call upon State and local officials and private organizations to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 14th day of March, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-three, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and seventh.

RONALD REAGAN

Proclamation 5032 of March 15, 1983

Loyalty Day, 1983

*By the President of the United States of America
A Proclamation*

It was once written that America is great because it is good, and if America ever ceases to be good, America will cease to be great. So long as Americans remain faithful—in deeds as well as thought—to the ideals embodied in our Constitution and furthered in our free institutions, our Nation's greatness will flourish.

Americans have fought, and many have died, to preserve the blessings of liberty in this fair land. Each of us has the opportunity to honor these sacrifices and to renew our commitment to American ideals as we go about our daily lives. When we participate in a free election, extend a helping hand to a neighbor, live responsible and productive lives, or teach a child through our own actions that all people are equal under the law, we manifest our allegiance to this great country.

We must never take our precious freedoms for granted. Rather, from time to time we must rededicate ourselves to the magnificent ideals of our great democracy—liberty, justice, and dignity for all mankind.

For this purpose, the Congress, by joint resolution approved July 18, 1958 (72 Stat. 369; 36 U.S.C. 162), has designated May 1 of each year as Loyalty Day, a day for reflection upon our national institutions, our heritage of freedom, and what it means to be an American.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RONALD REAGAN, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim Sunday, May 1, 1983, as Loyalty Day and call upon all Americans and patriotic, civic, and educational organizations to observe that day with appropriate ceremonies.

I call upon all government officials to display the flag of the United States on all Government buildings and grounds on that day.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 15th day of March, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-three, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and seventh.

RONALD REAGAN

Proclamation 5033 of March 21, 1983

National Eye Donor Month, 1983

*By the President of the United States of America
A Proclamation*

One of the most magnificent presents that one human being can bestow upon another is the gift of sight. Incredible as it may seem, it is within the power of each of us to give this precious gift simply by making arrangements to donate our eyes after death.

Thanks to advances in eye research, donor eyes can be stored and the preserved corneal tissues transplanted into the eyes of people who would otherwise be unable to see the beautiful and exciting world in which we live.

Each year some 30,000 people lose vision because their corneas have been damaged by injury, disease, or an inherited condition. Where the cornea has become so clouded that vision is lost, sight usually can be restored through a replacement cornea provided by a cornea donor.

Tragically, some visually impaired people who could benefit from this operation cannot be helped because suitable corneal tissue is not always available when needed. Donor eyes are also needed for vision research so that we may learn more about how this organ functions and develop ways to prevent and treat the many disorders which threaten sight.

It is appropriate that we as a Nation encourage eye donations and increase public awareness of the need for such donations. By filling out a uniform donor card and carrying it, we may give the gift of sight to people who now suffer from corneal blindness and benefit others from eye research.

Ante, p. 10.

The Congress, by Senate Joint Resolution 15, has designated March 1983 as "National Eye Donor Month" and has authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation in observance of that month.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RONALD REAGAN, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim the month of March 1983 as "National Eye Donor Month." I urge all citizens, health care professionals, educators, the media, and public and private organizations concerned with vision and vision research to join me in supporting this humanitarian action.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-first day of March, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-three, and of